

Message Text

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SUBJECT: HIGHLIGHTS, POST MEETING DISCUSSIONS,
OCTOBER 26, 1973 (SALT TWO - 326)

REF: SALT TWO GENEVA 5685

1. SUMMARY. POST-MEETING DISCUSSIONS ELICITED SOME COMMENT BY SOVDEL ON (A) SOVIET USE OF "STRATEGIC AVIATION" AND "STRATEGIC BOMBERS," AND (B) SOVIET DRAFT ARTICLE XI. END SUMMARY.

2. STRATEGIC BOMBERS. DURING DISCUSSION OF SEMENOV'S USE OF TERMS "STRATEGIC AVIATION" AND "STRATEGIC BOMBERS," SHCHUKIN AGREED WITH NITZE'S OBSERVATION (A-419) THAT SOVIET POSITION ON "STRATEGIC BOMBERS" WAS LINKED TO OTHER PROVISIONS OF THEIR DRAFT WHICH CALLED FOR THE WITHDRAWAL OF FORMS OF "STRATEGIC AVIATION" OTHER THAN "STRATEGIC BOMBERS" AND THE LIQUIDATION OF RELEVANT BASES.

3. NITZE THEN ASKED WHETHER IT WAS THE INTENT OF THE SOVIET SIDE TO MODIFY ITS DEFINITION OF "STRATEGIC BOMBERS" TO INCLUDE THOSE AVIATION SYSTEMS COVERED IN SOVIET DRAFT TEXT PROVISIONS ON WITHDRAWAL, IF THE WITHDRAWAL PROVISIONS OF THE SOVIET DRAFT WERE TO DROP

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OUT BECAUSE OF THE KNOWN U.S. POSITION WITH RESPECT TO

FORCES DEPLOYED IN SUPPORT OF ITS ALLIES. SHCHUKIN REPLIED THAT HE THOUGHT THIS WAS CORRECT BUT WISHED TO CHECK HIS ANSWER WITH HIS MILITARY AUTHORITIES.

4. ARTICLE XI. IN RESPONSE TO AUSLAND'S QUESTION (A-418) RE DIFFERENCE IN WORDING BETWEEN SOVIET DRAFT ARTICLE XI AND AGREED INTERPRETATION E OF THE ABM TREATY, CHULITSKY SAID THAT HE THOUGHT THEY WERE INTENDED TO SAY THE SAME THING. WHEN AUSLAND POINTED OUT U.S. INTERPRETS AGREED INTERPRETATION E TO MEAN THAT FUTURE ABM SYSTEMS WOULD BE PROHIBITED UNLESS BOTH SIDES AGREED TO THE CONTRARY, CHULITSKY MAINTAINED THAT HE STILL THOUGHT THE TWO MEANT THE SAME THING. HE SAID THAT HE HAD NOT BEEN INVOLVED IN THE DRAFTING OF THE AGREED INTERPRETATION AND, THEREFORE, WOULD LIKE TO CONSULT WITH HIS COLLEAGUES ON THIS MATTER.

5. (STRATEGIC CRUISE MISSILES. AT OCT. 25 SCC MEETING SCC-II-A-117, OWENS ASKED MAZERKIN TO EXPLAIN THE TERM "STRATEGIC" AS IT APPLIES TO CRUISE MISSILES. MAZERKIN SAID THAT AT ONE TIME THE U.S. OBJECTED TO THE TERM "CRUISE MISSILE" SO THE SOVIET SIDE BEGAN TO USE THE TERM "STRATEGIC" TO DESCRIBE THOSE MISSILES THAT CAN STRIKE LAND TARGETS. OWENS THEN ASKED MAZERKIN IF HE WOULD DISTINGUISH BETWEEN "TACTICAL" AND STRATEGIC" AS THESE TERMS RELATE TO CRUISE MISSILES. MAZERKIN ANSWERED BY SAYING THAT TACTICAL CRUISE MISSILES WERE OF THE TYPE PRESENTLY CARRIED BY U.S. SUBMARINES SIMILAR TO HARPOON. OWENS THEN ASKED IF THIS DISTINCTION IS DIRECTLY TIED TO THE RANGE OF THE MISSILE. MAZERKIN SAID NOT NECESSARILY; HOWEVER, GENERALLY SPEAKING THAT GROUP OF MISSILES WHICH ARE OF A CERTAIN TYPE WOULD CORRESPONDENTLY HAVE A CERTAIN RANGE. HE THEN SAID THAT ONCE WE HAD AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE ON CRUISE MISSILES, WE COULD THEN WORK OUT THE DETAILS.)JOHNSON

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